

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION NEA-10

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FOR NEA/INS-THIBAUT FROM DCM

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: SEDU, OEXC, SCUL
SUBJECT: DEAN OF LAW COLLEGE SEEKS TO VISIT U.S. LAW SCHOOLS

1. EMBASSY IS IN RECEIPT OF REQUEST FROM DEAN TAMBYAH NADARAJA OF SRI LANKA'S ONLY COLLEGE OF LAW, PART OF UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA, FOR ASSISTANCE IN TRAVELING TO U.S. FOR A ONE-MONTH VISIT TO 5 OR 6 AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS SOME TIME AFTER MID-JUNE, BUT PREFERABLY IN SEPTEMBER.

2. DR. NADARAJA , AGE 59, HAS TAUGHT LAW FOR 33 YEARS, HEADING DEPARTMENT, AND LATER FACULTY AND COLLEGE OF LAW, SINCE 1951. HIS IS THE ONLY ACADEMIC MEMBER OF COUNTRY'S COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION, HAS MA AND PHD FROM CAMBRIDGE, AND IS ADMITTED AS BARRISTER IN ENGLAND.

3. POST CANNOT ACCOMMODATE REQUEST WITHIN IVP GRANTS BECAUSE OF FULL SCHEDULE FOR BALANCE OF FISCAL YEAR AND BECAUSE MADARAJA'S AGE DOES NOT FOLLOW CU GUIDELINES. ON THE OTHER HAND, SRI LANKA IS ONE OF SMALL NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WHOSE LEGAL SYSTEM AND TRADITION ARE LARGELY COMPATIBLE WITH OURS AND IN WHICH THE AMERICAN LEGAL PROFESSION COULD STILL MAKE AN EXTREMELY VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION, ESPECIALLY IN CONSTITUTIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS FIELDS. WE HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED IN OUR INABILITY TO SECURE AN OUTSTANDING
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AMERICAN LEGAL FIGURE AS SPEAKER HERE, DESPITE REQUESTS OF CHIEF JUSTICE AND PRESIDENT OF BAR ASSOCIATION, MOST RECENT DISAPPOINTMENT BEING INABILITY OF CHARLES RHYNE TO FIT IN A STOP HERE FOLLOWING HIS COMING VISIT TO MANILA.

4. COULD DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF SOME FORM

OF PRIVATE FUNDING FOR DR. NADARAJA'S DESIRED VISIT, EITHER THROUGH AMERICAN LEGAL PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR PERHAPS THROUGH ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS (DUPONT CIRCLE)? ANOTHER LONG SHOT MIGHT BE A FOUNDATION, SUCH AS INTERNATIONAL LEGAL CENTER IN NEW YORK, FORMERLY FUNDED BY FORD FOUNDATION, AND WHICH SENT US JEFFREY FALK AND HIS PREDECESSORS IN FIELD OF LEGAL RESEARCH HERE.

5. DESPITE DR. NADARAJA'S AGE AND THE PROBABILITY OF EARLY FORMAL RETIREMENT, IT IS NOT UNLIKELY THAT A VISIT OF THE SORT HE PROJECTS MIGHT RESULT IN GREATER FUTURE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO THIS VITAL FIELD. ONE COULD FORESEE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE FULBRIGHTER AT LAW COLLEGE HERE, FOR EXAMPLE, OR OCCASIONAL PROFESSIONAL VISITS OF THE TYPE WHICH WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO PROMOTE, SO FAR WITHOUT SUCCESS. APPRECIATE ANYTHING DEPARTMENT MIGHT BE ABLE TO SUGGEST ALONG ABOVE LINES.
REED

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

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